Attorney Docket:: 0142-0451P

MDEN-0308

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A printer provided with a unit for forming an image and an endless

25

intermediate belt trained under tension around rollers in such a manner

that the belt can rotate over the rollers, said intermediate belt operatively

communicating with said unit for the transfer of the image from said unit

to a receiving material, wherein the belt comprises a fabric of threads as a

support, the threads of the fabric being positioned so that when the

intermediate belt rotates, a deviation of said belt axially is substantially

independent of said tension.

2. The printer according to claim 1, wherein the fabric comprises one or

more threads which extend substantially in the peripheral direction of the

belt, wherein said one or more threads extend over a length L equal to the

periphery of the belt in the axial direction over a distance D equal, at a

maximum, to three percent of the length L.

3. The printer according to claim 2, wherein the distance D is between

0.1% and 1% of the length L.

4. A method of making an intermediate belt suitable for use in a printer

which comprises:

weaving threads to form a fabric belt,

Attorney Docket:: 0142-0451P

MDEN-0308

after-treating the fabric belt wherein the threads are repositioned, maintaining the resulting position of the threads and

26

5. The method according to claim 4, wherein the position obtained is fixed by the application of the top layer.

applying a top layer to the fabric belt.

- 6. The method of claim 5 wherein the top layer is a rubber which is applied in a non-hardened form to the fabric belt where it is hardened to fix the position of the threads.
- 7. The method according to claim 4, wherein the fabric belt comprises one or more threads which extend substantially in the peripheral direction of the fabric belt and the after-treatment is effected by increasing the fabric belt tension in such a manner that the said one or more threads experience a tensile stress in the peripheral direction.
- 8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the said one or more threads are made of a plastic having a softening temperature, wherein the fabric belt is heated during the tensioning process to above said softening temperature.

Attorney Docket:: 0142-0451P

MDEN-0308

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein the periphery of the

fabric belt is increased during the tensioning process, whereafter the

27

tension is reduced until a situation is reached in which the fabric belt has

a required periphery, which situation is maintained for a predetermined

time, whereafter the fabric belt is cooled to below the softening

temperature.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein during the repositioning of the

threads and prior to cooling, the fabric belt is first over-stretched,

whereafter the belt is brought to required final periphery with a reduction

of the tension under which it is stretched.

11. The method according to claim 4 wherein the threads are

interrupted in the vicinity of the edges of the belt.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the interruption is achieved by

notching or perforating the belt.